

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 COLOMB 00609 180454Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 /069 W

-----180547 088906 /12

R 180341Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6739

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL MADRAS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COLOMBO 0609

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PINT, CE

SUBJECT: EXPECTED DEPARTURE OF COMMUNISTS FROM GOVERNMENT

REF: COLOMBO 0594

1. COMMUNIST PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE MET FEBRUARY 16 TO DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT TO WITHDRAW FROM GOVERNING UNITED FRONT (UF). ALTHOUGH NO OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT WAS MADE, IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT DECISION WAS TO WITHDRAW. PARTY STATEMENT MAY BE ISSUED SATURDAY. UNLESS PM AND HER SRI LANKA FREEDOM PARTY (SLFP) WOO CP BACK (AND WE SEE NO SIGN THAT THEY ARE TRYING VERY HARD), END OF UF IS NEAR AT HAND.

2. INDICATIONS NOW ARE THAT CP MAY NOT JOIN FORMAL OPPOSITION AND MAY SEEK A NO-CONTEST PACT WITH THE SLFP IN ELECTIONS. NEVERTHELESS COMMUNISTS WILL WITHDRAW THEIR MINISTER AND DEPUTY MINISTER FROM THE CABINET AND WILL NOT SUPPORT THE GOVERNMENT IN THE CURRENTLY PROROGUED ASSEMBLY. EVEN WITH THE EARLIER FIVE DEFECTIONS AND THE LOSS OF THE SIX CP M.P.'S THE SLFP WOULD HAVE A MAJORITY OF 87 IN AN ASSEMBLY OF 157.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 COLOMB 00609 180454Z

3. COMMENT. THE CP, SEEKING THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS, COVETS THE IDEOLOGICAL INDEPENDENCE OF BEING OUT OF THE GOVERNMENT, BUT WOULDN'T MIND SLFP SUPPORT IN THE ELECTIONS. WHETHER THE PM WOULD AGREE TO AN ELECTORAL PACT IS QUESTIONABLE. IF IT WOULD KEEP THE CP OUT OF THE SOCIALIST UNITED FRONT, IT MIGHT BE WORTH IT TO HER.

REED

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: OPPOSITION PARTIES, COMMUNISTS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977COLOMB00609
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770057-1166
Format: TEL
From: COLOMBO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770228/aaaaaywg.tcl
Line Count: 63
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 84a77cc4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 COLOMBO 594
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3284890
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EXPECTED DEPARTURE OF COMMUNISTS FROM GOVERNMENT
TAGS: PINT, CE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/84a77cc4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009